

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OIC-04

IO-14 ACDA-19 /145 R

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

C:HSOHNENFELDT

EUR:AAHARTMAN

EUR:WSTABLER

S/S: MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047965

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: SPRING MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: STATE 33416

1. FURTHER TO PARAGRAPH 5 OF STATE 33416, WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF A MINISTERIAL MEETING, IN ADDITION TO THE CEREMONIAL GATHERING FOR THE SIGNATURE OF THE YEAR OF EUROPE DECLARATIONS, AND CONCLUDE THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT ISSUES REQUIRING MINISTERIAL ATTENTION TO WARRANT PROCEEDING WITH PLANNING FOR A SPRING MINISTERIAL MEETING.

2. VARIOUS EAST-WEST ISSUES MAY WELL BE RIPE FOR DISCUSSION. BEGIN FYI: WE MAY WISH TO BRIEF THE ALLIES ON THE
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APPROACH WE WOULD PLAN TO TAKE TO VARIOUS ISSUES EXPECTED

TO ARISE DURING THE PRESIDENT'S LATER VISIT TO MOSCOW.
END FYI. WHILE THE GENEVA CSCE DISCUSSIONS MAY HAVE
CONCLUDED, OR REACHED THEIR FINAL STAGES, BY JUNE, WE
BELIEVE IT WOULD BE OPTICALLY AND SUBSTANTIVELY USEFUL
TO HOLD A NATO MINISTERIAL PRIOR TO A LIKELY STAGE THREE
HIGH-LEVEL CSCE MEETING IN JULY. MBFR ISSUES MAY ALSO
BE RIPE FOR DISCUSSION AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

3. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD SUGGEST THAT ALLIES RESUME
ACTIVE CONSIDERATION OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MINISTERS

IN JUNE, INDICATING THAT A MID-JUNE DATE WOULD BE PREFER-
ABLE FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, AND DRAWING ON FOREGOING IN
DISCUSSING TOPICS THAT MIGHT BE ADDRESSED. YOU SHOULD
ALSO STATE THAT WE WOULD PREFER A MEETING IN NATO HEAD-
QUARTERS IN BRUSSELS.

4. ADDITIONALLY, YOU SHOULD GIVE FURTHER SUPPORT TO FRG
PROPOSAL FOR RESTRUCTURING MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION ON
BASIS OF SEPARATE TOPICS, WITH AIM OF AVOIDING EXTENDED
MINISTERIAL INTERVENTIONS AND ENCOURAGING FREER EXCHANGES
OF VIEWS. (BEGIN FYI: WHILE FRENCH ARE CURRENTLY IN-
CLINED TO RESIST FRG RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS, WE BELIEVE
THAT THEIR APPARENT PREFERENCE FOR A SINGLE LENGTHY
INTERVENTION BY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER COULD BE ACCOM-
MODATED BY LEAVING IT TO EACH MINISTER'S DISCRETION AS
TO WHETHER (A) HE WANTS TO CIRCULATE HIS REMARKS IN
ADVANCE, (B) PRESENT HIS VIEWS IN A SINGLE INTERVENTION,
OR (C) PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION ON INDIVIDUAL TOPICS.
SINCE WE UNDERSTAND THE MAJORITY, BASED ON PERMREP DIS-
CUSSION, WILL LIKELY FAVOR A COMBINATION OF THE FIRST
AND THIRD APPROACHES, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT THE
RESULT WOULD BE AT LEAST A SUBSTANTIAL FORESHORTENING
OF INTERVENTIONS AND A GREATER EMPHASIS ON FREER EX-
CHANGES OF VIEWS. END FYI.)

5. HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT WILL BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT
APPROACH SPELLED OUT ABOVE IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION IN
THE REINFORCED NAC ON MARCH 14.

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